Novel Sues Garrison for $10 Million

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NEW ORLEANS (UPI)—A former New Orleans nightclub operator—wanted as a witness in Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's investigation of President Kennedy's assassination—has sued Garrison and his financial backers, asking perhaps $60 million.

Gordon Novel, 30, yesterday accused Garrison and his financial backers of conspiracy of their own.

The suit asked for $10 million in damages from Garrison and $1 million from each of the men Novel says put up money for the investigation.

Garrison has sought the extradition of Novel from Ohio as a material witness in the investigation.

Those actually named were businessmen Willard Robertson, Joseph Rault Jr. and Cecil Shilstone. The suit also named Truth and Consequences Inc., Garrison's fund-raising group headed by Robertson, Rault and Shilstone and an unspecified number of "John Does."

It has been reported that as many as 50 business leaders have supported Garrison through Truth and Consequences, so the lawsuit's price could go as high as $60 million.